

EDAD 639 – Administrative Practicum
Chadron State College
Reflection #6
Kellen Conroy
April 25, 2015

Administrative Log: April 2015

Documented Learning Experiences:

1. Educational Networking with the use of Twitter
Educational accounts followed include but not limited to:
 - School Software Group – Curriculum
 - NAESP – National Association of Elementary School Principals
 - NASSP – National Association of Secondary Principals
 - NSBA – National School Boards Association
 - NCSA Today – Nebraska Council of School Administrators
 - NASB – Nebraska Association of School Boards
 - Karen Haase – Nebraska School Law Attorney
 - AdvancED
 - NWEA (MAP Assessments)
 - Learning Forward
 - NEA – National Education Association
 - US. Dept. of Education
 - ASCD
2. Professional Organization Membership - Nebraska Council of School Administrators (NCSA)
3. ISLLC Standard Breakdown and Reflection

Addressed ISLLC Standard:

Standard #6: A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by understanding, responding to, and influencing the larger political, social, economic, legal, and cultural context.

Standard Indicators:

1. Investigate the vehicles that district administrators use to remain current regarding legal issues.

Review of Educational Networking Relating to Education and Professional Organization Membership

Throughout my practicum experience, one challenge and question that I have asked many administrators relates to the process of staying up-to-date with current legislation and law that can have tremendous impacts on education. As a teacher and an educational leader, educational law and legislation can greatly affect one's classroom, school, district, and community. Where do educators and instructional leaders find the time and resources needed to remain up-to-date with current legislation and school law?

One resource that I have turned to that supports both legislation and law as related to education is Twitter. The use of social media is on a dramatic rise with people, especially the students we are responsible for teaching and mentoring. Educational leaders can also use social media outlets such as Twitter for networking, sharing ideas/content, and receiving updates related to educational legislation and school law. I have found that the use of Twitter to learn more about school law and legislation has provided me an opportunity to further my understanding of each area. By following national/state educational organizations, key leaders in education, key leaders in the field of school law, and relevant educational groups I have developed an educational network that I can count on for quality and accurate information when needed.

When I was thinking about my reflections of learning and documenting the time appropriately, I chose to only document these learning experiences for the month of April. I have been an active Twitter user (@ConroyKellen) longer than I have been enrolled in this class and have used the social media outlet for support in

other educational areas as well such as Math and Science. The use of Twitter to receive educational updates is not a time consuming task. It takes merely minutes to seek out the information that is needed or wanted in relation to educational legislation or school law. With the numerous amounts of information that is available at our fingertips, educators need to embrace the use of technology as a tool for professional learning.

Another venue in which educators can receive top-quality information relating to school law and educational legislation is through the Nebraska Council of School Administrators (NCSA). While in the classroom, I joined NCSA early in my journey of completing my program in educational administration. This year, I rejoined the organization and have been very satisfied with the communication, information, and opportunities for networking provided by NCSA.

Dr. Mike Dulaney, the Executive Director of NCSA, provides constant updates to members relating to legislation that is being discussed, proposed, or voted on in our state's unicameral. It is interesting to read the updates and discover what bills are being proposed and could potential have a large impact on the education system of our state. I have included my postcard that was received after joining NCSA that shares the vision of NCSA and provides a method of contact for further educational support. Based on my experiences with NCSA (Attending a NCSA for Administrators day in Lincoln -2013 and Administrator Days in Kearney 2013, 2014, and again this year) I would highly recommend practicing and perspective administrators to join and participate in this great statewide professional organization.



Nebraska Council
of School Administrators

We Appreciate Your Support!

Thank you for your membership in the Nebraska Council of School Administrators (NCSA). Your support is indeed very appreciated.

Your dues investment will be used to continue our work to address issues of importance to Nebraska school administrators, to maintain an excellent training and development program that meets your professional needs, and to maintain a presence within the Nebraska legislative process.

Through the help of your membership and participation, NCSA will continue to be a cutting edge professional association with a mission to improve the quality of public education in Nebraska.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or if I can help you in any way (phone numbers on reverse). Also, please feel free to visit your association headquarters located at 455 S. 11th Street in Lincoln.

Dr. Michael Dulaney
Executive Director

ISLLC Standard Reflection

Standard 1 - A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by facilitating the development, articulation, implementation, and stewardship of a vision of learning that is shared and supported by the school community.

The activities and learning experiences that relate to ISLLC Standard 1 were very rewarding, challenging, and valuable as an educational professional and leader. Of the required hours needed for the practicum, I was able to acquire 30 hours worth of learning experiences. Having the ability and opportunity to work with school and ESU personnel in relation to the development, articulation, and implementation of a vision of learning was very rewarding.

Standard 2 - A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by advocating, nurturing, and sustaining a school culture and instructional program conducive to student learning and staff professional growth.

Standard 2 was the standard in which most of my hours were completed throughout the practicum learning experience. Of the required hours needed, I logged 207 hours. Also, two previous course experiences were added to the documentation for the administrative practicum. Fostering and sustaining a culture of student achievement and educational growth is a monumental task of educational leaders. In my educational setting as a member of the ESU #1 Professional Services

Team, much of my time and effort is devoted to helping teachers, administrators, and schools increase student achievement through meaningful and effective professional development.

Standard 3 - A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by ensuring management of the organization, operations, and resources for a safe, efficient, and effective learning environment.

Building management and effective fiscal operation of school systems is another vital responsibility to educational leaders. I had the opportunity to work with two mentors in a public school setting in relation to Standard 3. The total number of hours that were logged for Standard 3 was 29.5. Having the opportunity to examine first-hand the day to day duties of an administrator with my mentors, including instructional leadership and building management, provided very valuable learning experiences.

Standard 4 - A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by collaborating with families and community members, responding to diverse community interests and needs, and mobilizing community resources.

Throughout the practicum experience, I chose to and still continue to serve my community as a co-chair for the local parent-teacher organization. By serving in this capacity I have learning many things relating to working with different public organizations, personalities, communication skills, and needed leadership characteristics. The total amount of time devoted to Standard 4 was 64.25 hours. It is important for educational leaders to be able to develop and foster positive relationships with outside agencies and businesses in order to provide opportunities for increased student learning and achievement.

Standard 5 - A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by acting with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical manner.

When reflecting upon my experiences and learning opportunities with Standard 5 and comparing the number of hours that was devoted to this standard (19 hours), I felt that the characteristics described in Standard 5 are non-negotiable for educational leaders and school administrators. School leaders much act with integrity, fairness, and in an ethical manner. Leaders in education are looked upon in a different light than other professions and other people in communities. Educators must maintain a high moral character and conduct themselves in a professional manner both inside and outside of the school environment.

Standard 6 - A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by understanding, responding to, and influencing the larger political, social, economic, legal, and cultural context.

Standard 6 was my lowest area of concentration throughout my practicum experience and I logged 9.5 hours. I chose not to document every time that I was actively researching or reading information relating to school law or educational legislation. In order to prepare myself appropriately I chose to use two venues, Twitter and NCSA. The use of social media is on the rise with a large number of people associate with education and I chose to follow key leaders in education such as Karen Haase (School Law Attorney), NCSA, NASB, NEA, and NDE. In addition to the use of social media, I also joined the Nebraska Council of School Administrators (NCSA) as a means to gain more information and insight relating to educational administration in Nebraska, legislation that has an impact on education, and school law.

K. Conroy - Administrative Internship Log for EDAD 639-99

Administrative Practicum Cumulative Hours by ISLLC Standards

ISLLC Standards	1	*2	3	4	5	6	Monthly Total
Aug. - Oct. 2014	13	97.5	10.5	14.25	7	7	149.25
Nov. 2014	0	37	1	7.5	0	0	45.5
Dec 2014. - Jan. 2015	13	36	11	0	0	0	60
Feb. 2015	0	12	7	16	0	0	35
Mar. 2015	0	3	0	19	12	0	34
Apr. 2015	4	22	0	7.5	0	2.5	36
Total Hours	30	207.5	29.5	64.25	19	9.5	
Total Hours Required for Administrative Practicum: 250						Total Accumulated Hours	359.75
Total Number of Schools: 12 Total Number of ESUs: 4 Total Number of Conferences: 3							
		*Includes 29.5 hours in EDAD 629 & 633					